

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 18, wherein the ~~thrust support~~ superstructure acts on a point substantially at the centre of that portion between the front jaw (P) of the binding and the section where the tip curvature commences.
3. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 18, wherein the ~~thrust support~~ superstructure acts on a point situated in the rear half of that portion between the front jaw (P) of the binding and the section where the tip curvature commences.
4. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 18, wherein the base member is split into two half-members, namely a rear ~~one~~ half member for raising the heel of the binding, and a front half-member below the front part of ~~the~~ a boot.
5. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 18, wherein the front prolongation and at least the front portion of said base member form a monolithic entity.
6. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 4, wherein the front half-member is hinge-connected to said central region at a point to the rear of the front jaw (P).
7. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 18, wherein the connection ~~consists of~~ comprises a hinge slotted in a horizontal plane.

8. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim 4, wherein the front prolongation ~~is independent,~~ is connected at its rear to the front portion of said base member by a hinge and is provided with a retro-prolongation ~~which extends~~ extending from said hinge and acts as a reacting element on the base member by means of a counteracting element.

9. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim 4, wherein the front prolongation ~~is independent,~~ is connected at its rear to the front portion of said base member by a hinge and is provided with a retro-prolongation which extends from said hinge and acts as a reacting element on the ski by means of a counteracting element.

10. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim 4 9, wherein the front prolongation ~~is independent, is connected at its rear to the front portion of said base member by a hinge and is provided with a retro prolongation which extends from said hinge and acts as a reacting element on the base member by means of a first counteracting element and on the ski by means of~~ further comprises a second counteracting element.

11. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 8, wherein the counteracting element is of adjustable feed.

12. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim 11, wherein a ~~substantially elastic insert is associated with the counteracting element~~ has a substantially elastic insert.

13. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 12, wherein the insert is formed of high-resistance rubber.

14. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 9, wherein the counteracting element is of adjustable feed.

15. (Currently Amended) The ski as claimed in claim 14, wherein a ~~substantially elastic insert is associated with~~ the counteracting element has a substantially elastic insert.

16. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 10, wherein the counteracting element is of adjustable feed.

17. (Previously Presented) The ski as claimed in claim 16, wherein a substantially elastic insert is associated with the counteracting element.

18. (New) A downhill ski comprising

a tail region, central region, a shovel region, a tip having a curvature, and a longitudinal axis extending from the tail region to the tip,

a binding having a front jaw,

a superstructure connected to the central region, the superstructure having a base member and a front prolongation, the end of the front prolongation exerting a downward thrust action between the front jaw of the binding and where the tip curvature commences, a connection of the end of the said front prolongation to said ski acting as a bilateral support and a hinge having a horizontal axis transverse to the longitudinal axis, the hinge inhibiting vertical movement of the front prolongation relative the central region, allowing rotation about said transverse-horizontal axis and sliding of the front prolongation in a longitudinal direction.

19. (New) A downhill ski comprising

a tail region, central region, a shovel region, a tip having a curvature, and a longitudinal axis extending from the tail region to the tip,

a binding having a front jaw,

a superstructure connected to the central region, the superstructure having a base member and a front prolongation, the end of the front prolongation exerting a downward thrust action between the front jaw of the binding and where the tip curvature commences,

a bracket extending from the shovel region, the bracket having a horizontal slot,

an end of the front prolongation connected to the bracket, the front prolongation movable along the slot.

20. (New) The ski as claimed in claim 19, wherein the front prolongation is connected at its rear to the front portion of said base member by a hinge and is provided with a retro-prolongation which extends from said hinge and acts as a reacting element on the ski by means of a counteracting element.

21. (New) The ski as claimed in claim 20, wherein counteracting element has a substantially elastic insert.